

Application Serial No. 10/027,625
Amendment dated May 16, 2007
Response to Official Action of November 16, 2006

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Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-8. (Cancelled).
9. (Currently Amended) A method for serologically identifying with improved accuracy in an individual known to be allergic the actual sensitizing allergen source from among a variety of possible allergen sources containing cross-reactive proteins or epitopes, comprising selecting an individual known to be allergic; contacting serum from the individual with a pure allergen component derived from one of the variety of possible allergen sources, the pure allergen component and having limited or no cross-reactivity; determining, in said serum, the presence of IgE binding to said pure allergen component; and identifying the source from which said pure allergen component is derived as the actual sensitizing allergen source if the serum contains IgE binding to said pure allergen component.
10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, further comprising selecting an allergy treatment involving extract, proteins or peptides derived from said actual sensitizing allergen source.
11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the allergen component is derived from pollen of a plant species.
12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the plant species is a weed species.

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13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the weed species is mugwort, ragweed or a *Parietaria* species.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the weed species is *Parietaria judaica*.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein the allergen component is Par j 1 or Par j 2.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the allergen component is recombinant.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the pure allergen component is derived from pollen of a plant species.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the pure allergen component is derived from a weed species.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the weed species is mugwort, ragweed or a *Parietaria* species.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the weed species is *Parietaria judaica*.

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21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 20, wherein the pure allergen component is Par j 1 or Par j 2.

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) A method for serologically identifying with improved accuracy sensitivity to *Parietaria* pollen in an individual known to be allergic, from among a variety of possible allergen pollen sources, comprising selecting an individual known to be allergic; contacting a serum sample from the individual with a pure allergen component of Par j 1 or Par j 2; determining, in said serum, the presence of IgE binding to said pure allergen component; and identifying the individual as sensitive to *Parietaria* pollen if the serum contains IgE binding to said pure allergen component.

24. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein the allergen component is Par j 2.

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein the allergen component is recombinant Par j 2.

26. (Currently Amended) A method for serological diagnosis for an individual known to be allergic of an actual sensitizing allergen pollen source from among a variety of possible allergen pollen sources containing cross-reactive proteins or epitopes with improved accuracy, comprising selecting an individual known to be allergic to pollen; contacting a serum sample from the individual ~~for which diagnosis is desired~~ with a pure allergen component derived from one of the variety of allergen pollen sources which contain cross-

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reactive proteins or epitopes, the pure allergen component and having limited or no cross-reactivity; determining, in said serum, the presence of IgE binding to said pure allergen component; and identifying the allergen pollen source from which said pure allergen component is derived as the actual sensitizing allergen pollen source if the serum contains IgE binding to said pure allergen component.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein the allergen source from which the pure allergen component is derived is mugwort, ragweed or a *Parietaria* species.

28. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein the pure allergen component is recombinant Par j 2.

29. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein the individual has previously been diagnosed as allergic to weed pollen, and wherein the pure allergen component is Par j 2.